

What is claimed is:

1. A method for reducing excess extracellular fluid in a subject undergoing hemodialysis comprising administering a V-1 receptor agonist to the subject in an effective amount and thereby maintaining blood pressure during hemodialysis in order to facilitate reducing excess extracellular fluid in the subject.
2. A method for stabilizing high blood pressure between hemodialysis treatments in a subject undergoing hemodialysis by reducing excess extracellular fluid by the method of claim 1.
3. A method for inhibiting interdialytic hypertension by regulating blood pressure by the method of claim 2.
4. A method for inhibiting intradialytic hypotension by regulating blood pressure by the method of claim 1.
5. The method of claim 1, wherein the V-1 receptor agonist is arginine vasopressin.
6. The method of claim 1, wherein the V-1 receptor agonist is lysine vasopressin.
7. The method of claim 1, wherein the V-1 receptor agonist is terlipressin.
8. The method of claim 1, wherein the V-1 receptor agonist is octapressin.
9. The method of claim 1, wherein the V-1 receptor agonist is ornipressin.
10. The method of claim 1, wherein the V-1 receptor agonist is an organic molecule selected from the group consisting of 3-beta-(2-thienyl)-L-alanine-8-lysine-vasopressin, N-alpha-glycyl-glycyl-glycyl-[8-lysine]-vasopressin, and 1-deamino-6-carba-[8-arginine]-vasopressin.

11. The method of claim 1, wherein the effective amount of the V-1 receptor agonist is in a range of about 0.05 milliunits/kg/minute - 2.0 milliunits/kg/hr.
- 5 12. The method of claim 1, wherein the effective amount of the V-1 receptor agonist is about 0.3 milliunits/kg/minute.
13. The method of claim 1, wherein the subject is a human, non-human primate, rabbit, sheep, rat, dog, cat, pig, or mouse.